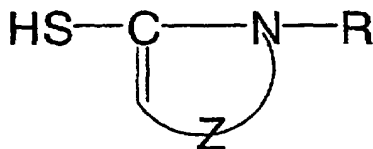


WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A photothermographic material comprising a support having disposed on one surface thereof at least one image-forming layer containing a binder, an organic silver salt, a reducing agent for reducing silver ions, an organic polyhalogen compound and a photosensitive silver halide, wherein the photosensitive silver halide has a silver iodide content ranging from 10 mol% to 100 mol%, and said material is irradiated with a laser beam and further comprises at least one compound represented by the following general formula (1):

General Formula (1)



wherein Z represents a group of atoms to form a 5- or 6-membered heteroaromatic ring containing at least two nitrogen atoms; and

R represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, an aralkyl group, an alkoxy group or an aryl group.

2. The photothermographic material according to claim 1, wherein a grain size of the photosensitive silver halide ranges from 5 nm to 100 nm.

3. The photothermographic material according to claim 1, wherein the photosensitive silver halide contains a grain which is formed and

chemically sensitized under conditions where the organic silver salt is not present.

4. The photothermographic material according to claim 2, wherein the photosensitive silver halide contains a grain which is formed and chemically sensitized under conditions where the organic silver salt is not present.

5. The photothermographic material according to claim 1, wherein a silver iodide content of the photosensitive silver halide ranges from 40 mol% to 100 mol%.

6. The photothermographic material according to claim 2, wherein a silver iodide content of the photosensitive silver halide ranges from 40 mol% to 100 mol%.

7. The photothermographic material according to claim 1, wherein a silver iodide content of the photosensitive silver halide ranges from 90 mol% to 100 mol%.

8. The photothermographic material according to claim 2, wherein a silver iodide content of the photosensitive silver halide ranges from 90 mol% to 100 mol%.

9. The photothermographic material according to claim 3, wherein a

silver iodide content of the photosensitive silver halide ranges from 90 mol% to 100 mol%.

10. A photothermographic material comprising a support including on one surface thereof at least a photosensitive silver halide, a non-photosensitive organic silver salt, a reducing agent for reducing silver ions and a binder, wherein the photosensitive silver halide 1) has a silver iodide content ranging from 10 mol% to 100 mol% and 2) contains at least one metal selected from a first metal group consisting of iridium, ruthenium, iron, osmium and copper; and at least one metal selected from a second metal group consisting of ruthenium, iron, osmium, rhenium, gold, platinum, copper, indium, gallium, lead, thallium, chromium, palladium, nickel and zinc, with a proviso that none of the at least one metal selected from the first metal group and the at least one metal selected from the second metal group are the same.

11. The photothermographic material according to claim 10, wherein the photosensitive silver halide comprises a combination of metals selected from the first metal group and the second metal group such that the combinations to select from are Ir-Fe, Ir-Cu, Ru-Cu, Ru-Fe, Fe-Os, Fe-Ru, Fe-Cu, Fe-Pt, Os-Cu, Os-Fe, Cu-Fe and Cu-Ru.

12. The photothermographic material according to claim 10, wherein the photosensitive silver halide comprises a combination of metals selected from the first metal group and the second metal group such that

the combinations to select from are Ir-Fe, Ru-Fe, Fe-Cu, Fe-Pt, Ru-Cu, Os-Fe, Cu-Fe and Cu-Ru.

13. The photothermographic material according to claim 10, wherein the metal selected from the first metal group is distributed in a core and the metal selected from the second metal group is distributed in a shell.

14. The photothermographic material according to claim 10, wherein an emulsion of the silver halide is chemically sensitized by at least one sensitization selected from the group consisting of chalcogen sensitization, gold sensitization and reduction sensitization.

15. The photothermographic material according to claim 14, wherein the chalcogen sensitization is at least one of tellurium sensitization, selenium sensitization and sulfur sensitization.

16. The photothermographic material according to claim 14, wherein the chalcogen sensitization is at least one of tellurium sensitization and selenium sensitization.

17. The photothermographic material according to claim 14, wherein the chalcogen sensitization is tellurium sensitization.

18. The photothermographic material according to claim 10, wherein the silver iodide content of a photographic emulsion of the silver halide

ranges from 40 mol% to 100 mol%.

19. The photothermographic material according to claim 18, wherein the silver iodide content of the photographic emulsion of the silver halide ranges from 90 mol% to 100 mol%.

20. The photothermographic material according to claim 10, wherein a grain size of a grain of the silver halide ranges from 10 nm to 50 nm.